

Request for City Council Committee Action From the Department of Public Works

Date: November 17, 2003

To: Honorable Sandra Colvin Roy, Chair Transportation & Public Works Committee

Referral to: None

Subject: Presentation of Southwest Corridor LRT Study Final Report

Recommendation:

To support the Southwest LRT Corridor Study process and to recommend that the Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority pursue the next phase of study.

Previous Directives:

Prepared by: Donald Pflaum, Transportation Engineer, 673-2129

Approved by:

Klara A. Fabry, P.E., City Engineer, Director of Public Works

Presenters: Donald Pflaum, Traffic and Parking Services

Katie Walker, HCRRA Derek Crider, HCRRA

Financial Impact (Check those that apply)
X No financial impact - or - Action is within current department budget. (If checked, go directly to Background/Supporting Information)
Action requires an appropriation increase to the Capital Budget Action requires an appropriation increase to the Operating Budget Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase Action requires use of contingency or reserves Other financial impact (Explain):

Request provided to the Budget Office when provided to the Committee Coordinator

Background/Supporting Information:

The Southwest LRT Corridor Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) presented its recommendations to the Southwest LRT Corridor Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) earlier this year after 18 months of study. The planning process has included several series of open houses and many meetings with neighborhoods, residents and businesses along the corridor.

The PAC has forwarded its recommendations to HCRRA in July. It is expected that the HCRRA will take action on the recommendations this Fall - after presentations are given to the five cities within the corridor (Minneapolis, St. Louis Park, Hopkins, Eden Prairie and Minnetonka).

The purpose of the Study was to determine if rail transit is a feasible part of the overall transportation solution for the Southwest Metro Area. The recommendation is to continue a more detailed study of four LRT alignments in addition to the connection along the Midtown Greenway Corridor, environmental impacts and mitigation measures, and public involvement.

Exhibit A – SW LRT Study Newsletter #5
Exhibit B – Power Point Presentation to be given by HCRRA staff

Cc: Council Member Lisa Goodman, Council Member Dan Niziolek, Council Member Scott Benson and Kevin Johnson, Bryn Mawr Neighborhood Association